

SECURITY SYSTEM FOR DIGITAL CINEMA**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A system and method for secure delivery and playback of content at a theater complex domain. The domain receives encrypted and compressed content from a studio domain. The theater complex domain comprises at least a projection unit operable to render decompressed digital video content, and a security module removably coupled to the projection unit. The security module includes at least a decompression unit operable to produce decompressed digital video content. The security module further includes a decryption unit coupled to the decompression unit that is operable to produce unencrypted compressed digital video content that is then processed by the decompression unit. The security module further includes a watermark unit coupled to the decompression unit operable to produce the decompressed digital video content rendered by the projection unit that includes a watermark embedded therein. The watermark is used to uniquely identify the projection unit to which the security module is removably coupled, or alternatively, to uniquely identify the security module itself. The security module is physically locked in a tamper resistant container, and is preferably physically locked inside or onto the projection unit to which it is removably coupled. A receiver is coupled to the security module in order to receive the compressed digital video content from the content source or studio domain. The receiver is coupled to the security module, for example, by an internet protocol network. The receiver may receive the compressed digital video content from the studio domain in real-time, or alternatively, a file server may store the compressed digital video content and later provide it to the security module when it is to be rendered. A connection path to the content source may be provided in order to periodically report back to the content source.